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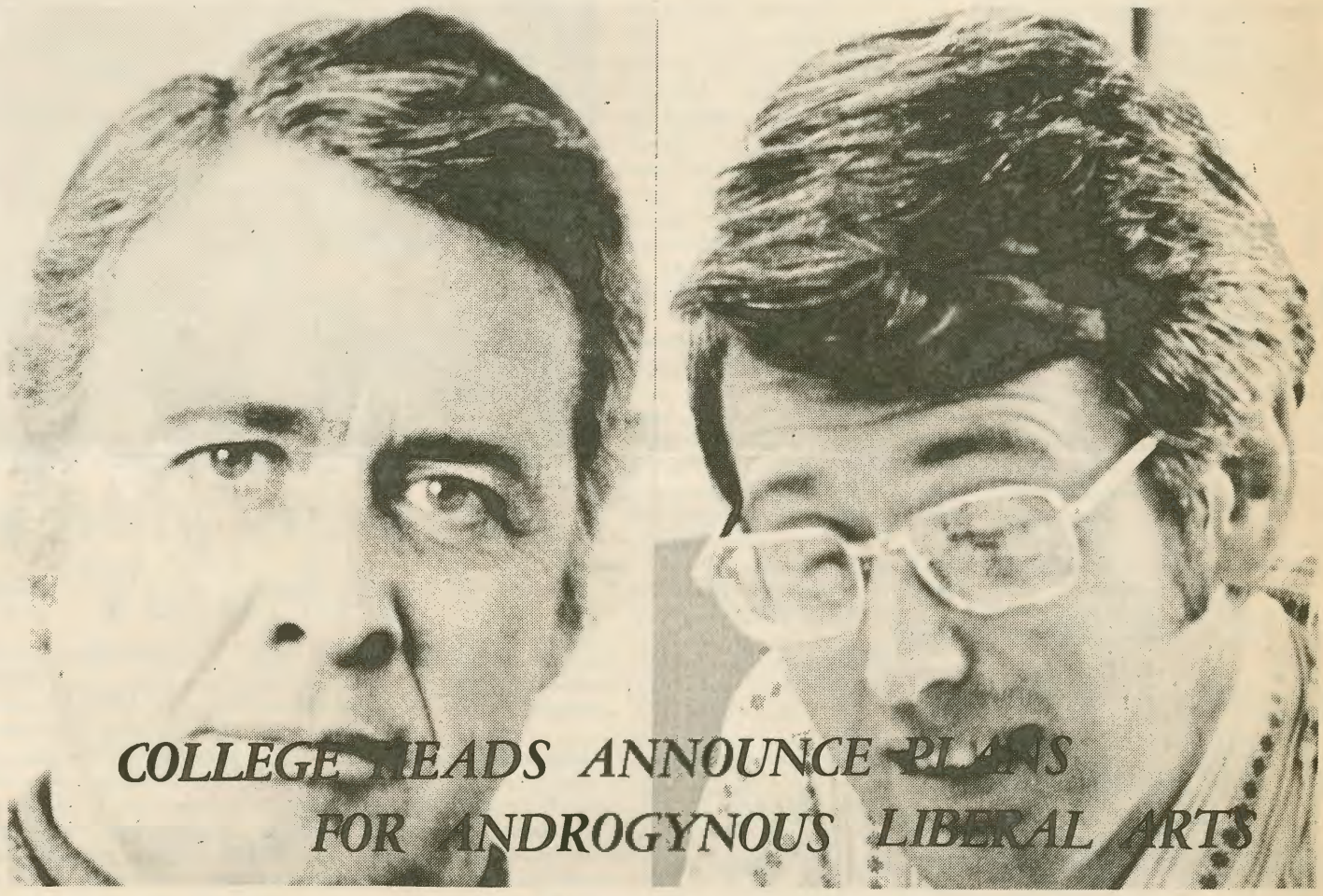
COLLEGE 'X' SET TO GO!



COLLEGE HEADS ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR ANDROGYNOUS LIBERAL ARTS

Presidents Babbitt and Carovano, in a Utica press conference, today announced the revival of the College Cluster Plan with an architect's drawing of "College X" as a backdrop.

The Cluster Plan—developed in the early 60s by dead Hamilton President Robert McEwen has been quietly brought to life in recent months, to the surprise of the college community which thought Kirkland the first and last of Hamilton's expansions.

The Cluster Plan, fabricated late one snowy night in 1961 by McEwen was meant to bring a number of liberal arts colleges to accompany Hamilton on the Hill. The basic premise behind the Plan was this, as McEwen put it: "This is a nice place but there are no girls, right? Nothin' wrong with girls. No reason to travel off the Hill for girls. Let's bring girls here. Right?"

Today's packed press conference at Uncle Henry's Pancake House thus marked a historic day for both colleges. The presidents, wishing to impress the reporters with Hamiton's and Kirkland's equality and autonomy in this joint venture, read their press release in unison.

The presidents began, stating, "We are firmly committed to the future of the liberal arts in American life and are therefore planning a unique institution—one to be attended and operated solely by androgynous persons. With the revolution in sexual mores, especially the outbreak of unisex barbershops, this college, as yet unnamed, will serve a real educational need in an innovative and creative way."

At this point, President Carovano, squinting in front of the camera lights, said alone, "As the president of the nation's 30th oldest college which draws 80 per cent of its students from the top 10 per cent of their high school classes, on this, the 54th day of the bicentennial year, I must add my personal hopes for the third of the Cluster Colleges, of Clinton, New York, an original colony..."

Carovano continued, "Yeah, and Kirkland, you know, is the first new women's college in the East since 1926, they are in their second decade, proposing the third college, and so on."

Babbitt, in tweed jacket, turtleneck, and suede boots, grinned and said, "Thanks, Martin [J.....Carovano]. I think the point to bear in mind here is that of the major contribution we are announcing. We are doing what had to be done and we're doing it with some thought, some style...some real chutzpah. Because in fact what we're doing is ending discrimination against a growing group of persons in society. That's what we're all about."

Kirkland's cheerleaders looked on from the side as Babbitt and Carovano fielded questions from the newsmen, newswomen, and other newspeople of the major Utica media.

The $20 million physical plant will be located in what is now Hamilton's soccer field adjacent to Campus Road past Theta Delta Chi. Building plans, designed by Philip Hooker of Albany, include a classroom and office building, six dormitories, and large combination theater-dining hall. The style is basically dualistic—marked by tall pointed towers and low round, glass buildings.

Financing the new college, at this point, will present a formidable challenge, Babbitt and Carovano stated in unison, but at the same time announced receipt of the following major pledges:

—$2 million from Jemima Horace, the British author, formerly James Horace.

—$1 million from the Bristol-Myers Corporation whose directors have been told about the college, but not the adrogynes. Babbitt explained, "The key to good fundraising is to keep the donor informed only in the broadest sense—administrative details really are of no interest to busy corporate executives."

"The important thing to remember," Carovano mumbled, "is that this college will be small--700 students--thus retaining the intimacy and individual concern so important at Hamilton and Kirkland. And by the way, 56.5 per cent of Hamilton's alumni contribute to the college each year. That might not seem relevant, but believe me, it pays my salary."

Soccer Field: College X Campus Will Soon Rise

Clinton Reaction Mixed Up

Clinton townspeople reacted to the plans for College X in various ways. John Pawes, owner of Clinton Shell, when told of the plans for the androgynous institutions, said, "Whatever they are, they gotta have gas. Don't they?"

James Stenly, owner of Stan's Coffee Shop, said, "Heh, more hillfolk, eh? Heh?"

When pressed, Stenly added, "Heh, more hillfolk, eh? Heh."

Robin Kinkey, owner of the haberdashery, who has gone Chapter 11 for his livelihood said, "Wow. What an opportunity. A unisex clothing store, I'm sure to go broke."

Clinton Mayor Harlem Louis summed up the reaction in the Village when he said,"Kirkland girls looked nutty at first but we got used to 'em. We'll get used to the andromedas, or whatever you call 'em, too...I guess. I mean if we got used to the Kirkland girls...I mean you know what I mean. How much different would they be?"

Officer Walter Schitz, notorious for his traffic ticket policy, was exuberant. "Another goddamn college. Well shit. Man, no one was faster than those college people, but you don't have to be a?? that fast to get a ticket in Clinton, but you gotta be real slow to give one, you know what I mean, kid?"

Editorial

A Wonderful Day

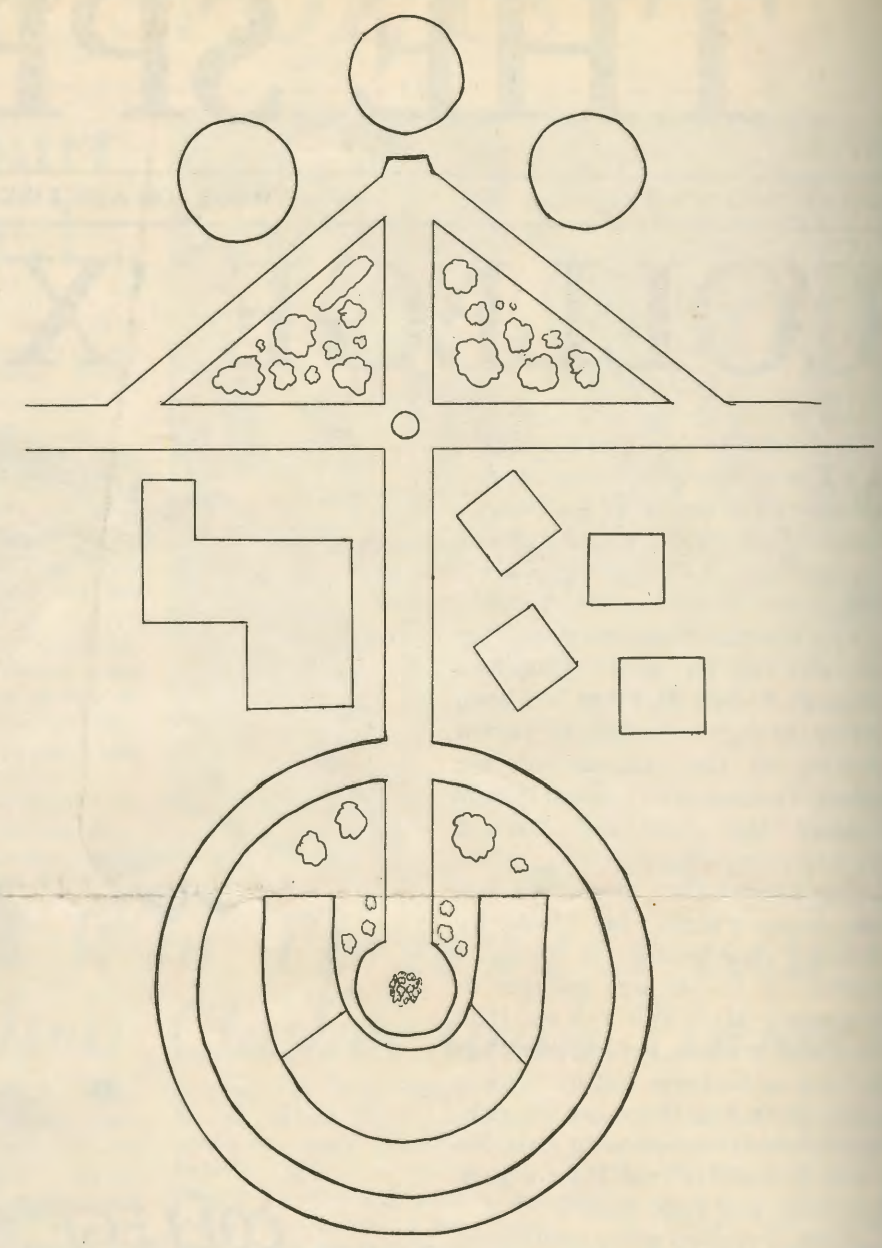
As Kirkland College Trustee Emeritus Millinery McIntosh always says, "What could be more fitting?" That is precisely this newspaper's reaction to the announcement about College X. A men's college...a women's college...and now, a college for androgynes. All the trustees and administrators involved deserve credit for dreaming up this experiment in higher education.

But the road ahead is one filled with obstacles. President Babbitt has already admitted that "all is not hunky dory. We are after all building a new bailiwick." And Carovano, too, recognizes the challenge. "I recognize the challenge," he said.

The new institution needs the minds and spirits of this entire community, not to mention the money. When the College X Fund representative comes to your room, please try to be generous. The Spectator urges the entire student bodies to contribute what they can.

Coleman Burke '34, chairman of Hamilton's Board, seemed to capture the wishes and feelings of everyone around here when he said, "Oh, what a wonderful day this is. Just wonderful." He added, "Just wonderful, what more can we say?"

Aerial View of Campus



Trustees 'Out of PJs' Convince Carovano of Needs

The decision to create a college for androgynous beings was the result of several years of analysis and evaluation of the unmet needs of Hamilton and Kirkland Colleges, according to a report by the long range planning committee.

"In this time of economic difficulties, we had to hit upon one sure-fire proposal," said Babbitt."It's always dangerous to start a new college, but we hope to be the forerunners in the up and coming area of androgyny," he said.

Babbitt: 'We had to hit upon one sure—fire proposal'

"I was a bit apprehensive," said Carovano. "I was not convinced of the extent of the need, nor did I think the idea would go over that well with the Hamilton trustees." However, at a New York meeting, several Hamilton trustees "came out of their p.j.'s" (a new expression coined for androgynes going public), and Carovano said he was convinced there was a need that he had never anticipated.

Kirkland, an innovative college, had no trouble convincing its trustees to support the new college, according to Babbitt.

Dean of Student Affairs Jane Pollster, however, said that she was a bit concerned about the effect the new college would have on the Kirkland community. "We have enough trouble contending with just one other sex, I just don't know what we're going to do with these things," she said, adding that "maybe we can win them to our side."

Dean of Students R. Gordon BigHam, however, said, "Androgynes must be respected for their lack of sexual preference just as we are respected for ours." He did add, however, that perhaps they will benefit from his "Men and Masculinity" series. "It's not just for men," he said.

Pollster said she hopes the new college will not restrict itself to androgynes of the 18-22 age group, and she shopes to be instrumental in starting A Program for Androgynes of All Ages.

For two years, Jesse Zipper, Kirkland publication person, will take over the recruiting documents. "Man, don't you think I've given it a lot of thought," he said. "We'll call the catalog 'Generalizations,' and it will be printed on a long roll of toilet paper. Jesus, it'll be even earthier than 'Particulars,'" he said.

Dean of Academic Affairs Katie Blazer was unable to be reached for comment, although Babbitt reported her to have commented that she recommended "we all do our homework very carefully before we undertake such an enterprise."

A Definition To Work With

Androgynous, says the dictionary, means both male and female in one being, or hermaphrodit] .

But the term has, some say, taken on many 20th century social connotations and has come to mean persons confused about their sex, sex roles, etc.

Dr. Herman Ditter, contacted yesterday in Vienna where he werks in his laboratory constantly, said, "Ya, androgynous peoples are very interesting. I am glad about the college. Are you studying them or trying to get them. Either vay, very interesting."

Name This College.

The future of this enlightened undertaking is clearly clouded by a number of currently unanswered questions. Not the least of these is the difficulty of providing a name for so original a concept.

"Of course the name is important," commented one administrator who though high in the power structure at Hamilton, and for that matter high most of the time, asked that his name be withheld. "Do you think we want to be known as the builders of Pervert U.? Once a name like that gets hung on you there is literally no escaping it. Next thing you know, creeps, schmucks, and mulattos will start hanging out n town. Do you think the people at at the Hayes will stand for that? They're still pissed about us allowing cars in town."

Those officially responsible for this development, the Trustees of both colleges, are particularly firm about the importance of the name. "Important, of course it's important. What do you mean important? Tell you the truth, I knew it was important before you were born." This was the comment of one of the chairman of one of the Boards of Trustees of one of the colleges. He went on to say, "Do you think they'll want to use my name again? What would Dad say?"

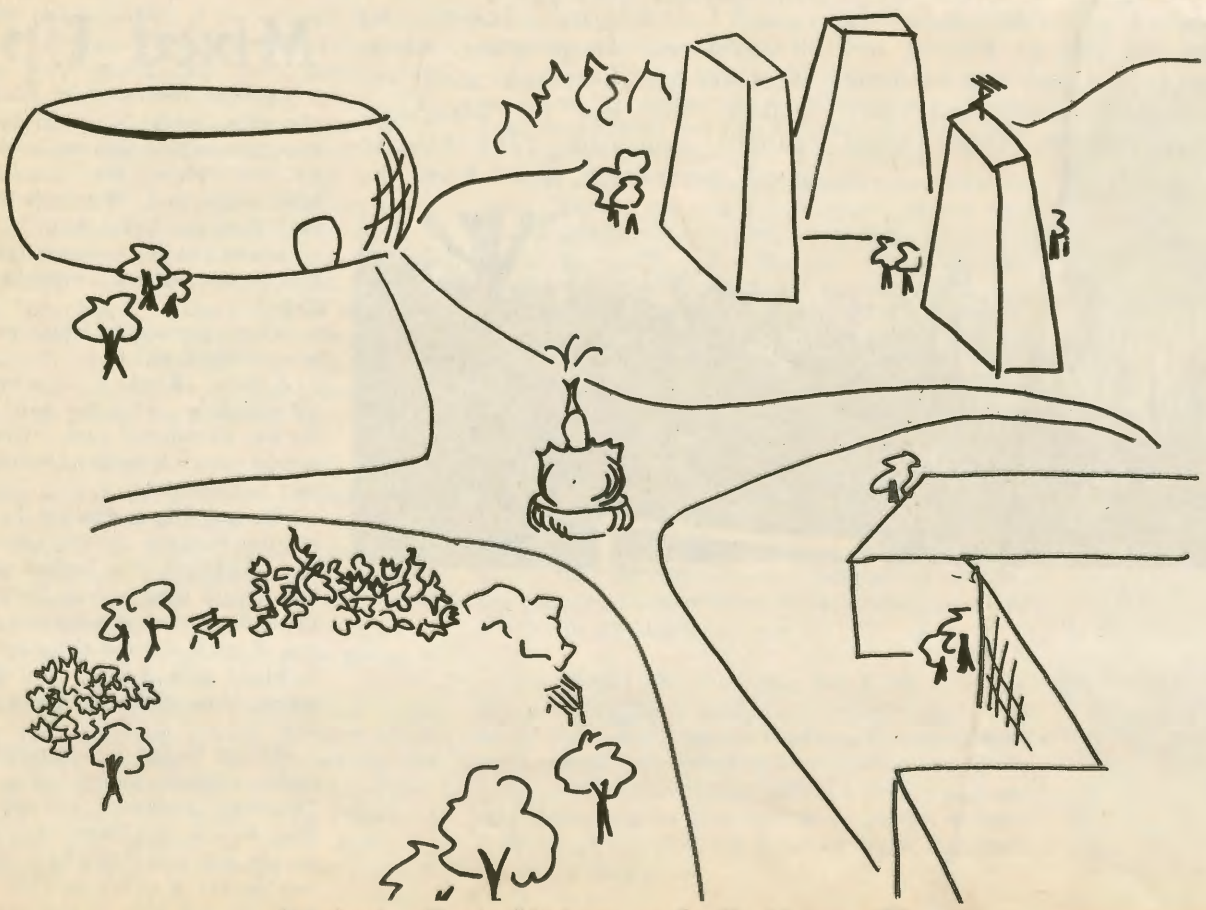
Apparently there is a series of things which must be determined before the naming process can get to what a former Dean of Hamilton College once called "second base." These determinations involve decisions as to the context of the name. One especially old, soon-to-be-no-longer- head librarian explained: "Shall it, for example, be historical and thus named for Samuel Kirkland's neutered dog? Or shall it be economic and thus named for the inventor of aspirin?

Linda Wants to Come Back

Linda Patrol, former assistant dean of student affairs at Kirkland, is reportedly under consideration for the post of Dean of Admissions at College X.

Patrol, contacted at her office at the New York Department of Corrections, said she plans to admit students who will follow the rules if chosen for the post.

When asked what rules she referred to, Patrol yelled, "I mean this: I plan to make the application for admission to College X the most elaborate and intricate in higher education. Those who can complete the form, following the instructions, will be accepted. This will indicate to me the necessary deference to authority which is what small-college education is, after all, concerned with."



Artist's Rendition of College X

THE SPECULATOR

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"The Speculator" is a humor issue of The Spectator. Any comments about or attributed to thinly disguised or undisguised campus and local personage is intended in good humor. This is the first Spectator spoof in a number of years. Better luck next year.

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